

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00036 031623Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 EUR-12

ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 PA-02 PRS-01

OIC-02 SP-02 L-03 H-02 /101 W

-----031739Z 056759 /50 44

P R 031802Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8405

INFO DEPARTMENT OF HEW

UNCLAS PARIS 00036

NESCO

DEPARTMENT OF HEW FOR RLEESTMA OIAM:LWYATT AND USOE/DIE/ISRB:TE
COTNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, SEDU, UNESCO

SUBJECT: IBE COUNCIL MEETING, GENEVA, 17-20 JAN 1977

REF: NAIROBI 13203

1. REFTEL GAVE DETAILS OF UNESCO 19TH GC ELECTION OF US TO SUBJECT COUNCIL. EIGHT WESTERN EUROPEAN MEMBER STATES AND US EXPRESSED DESIRE TO BE ELECTED TO FOUR SEATS BEING VACATED BY STATES FROM ELECTORAL GROUP I.
2. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN INVITED ELECTORAL GROUP I STATES TO CAUCUS AND PRESENT SLATE OF FOUR MEMBER STATES TO COMMITTEE.
3. ELECTORAL GROUP I CHAIRMAN ATTEMPTED TO REDUCE CANDIDATES TO FOUR. NETHERLANDS AND FRG WITHDREW, BUT SEVEN STATES CONTINUED THEIR NOMINATIONS FOR FOUR SEATS. CHAIRMAN DECIDED SLATE OF FOUR WOULD BE DETERMINED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PARIS 00036 031623Z

SECRET VOTE. HE REQUESTED EACH OF THE SEVEN MEMBER STATES TO NAME THE OFFICIAL WHO WOULD REPRESENT THAT STATE ON THE COUNCIL SHOULD THE STATE BE ELECTED. THERE WAS NO TIME TO CONSULT DEPT OR USOE.

4. USDEL REPRESENTATIVE TO NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE NAMED DR. ROBERT LEESTMA, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOP-

ING INSTITUTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, USOE AS OFFICIAL US REP SHOULD US BE ELECTED. SECRET VOTE RESULTED IN FRANCE, SPAIN, SWEDEN, AND US BEING NOMINATED. BELGIUM, TURKEY AND UK WERE REJECTED. NOMINEES WERE ELECTED IN PLENARY.

5. IN VIEW OF USDEL COMMITMENT OF LEESTMA, WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY CONTRIBUTED TO US BEING NOMINATED, US PERMDEL FEELS IT ESSENTIAL REPEAT ESSENTIAL LEESTMA BE US REP TO SUBJECT MEETING. PERMDEL REQUESTS CONFIRMATION OF LEESTMA'S ATTENDANCE SOONEST.

6. SUBJECT MEETING OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO US. FERNIG, PRESERT IBE DIRECTOR, RETIRES THIS SPRING. SUBJECT MEETING AGENDA INCLUDES FORMING OF NOMINATION "SHORT LIST" FOR NEW IBE DIRECTOR TO BE PRESENTED TO UNESCO DG. OF 34 CANDIDATES, FIVE HIGHLY QUALIFIED AMERICANS ARE BEING CONSIDERED. COMPETITION FROM WESTERN EUROPEAN AND THIRD WORLD CANDIDATES WILL BE KEEN. SELECTION OF US CANDIDATE WILL BE IMPORTANT TO FUTURE US INTERESTS. IN ADDITION, PLANS FOR 1977 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE) WILL BE MADE.

7. US PERMDEL ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS LEESTMA BE BACKED BY TINSMAN, US PERMDEL EDUCATION ATTACHE, WHO HAS ESSENTIAL BACKGROUND ON NEW IBE COUNCIL MEMBERS, IBE DIRECTOR NOMINEES, AND POSSIBLE STRATEGIES FOR ATTEMPTING TO ASSURE THAT AT LEAST ONE US CANDIDATE IS PLACED ON NOMINATION "SHORT LIST". TINSMAN'S PRESENCE WOULD ALSO UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 PARIS 00036 031623Z

ASSURE CONTINUITY OF PLANNING FOR ICE FROM LAST COUNCIL MEETING.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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